

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are pending in the application. Claims 8-24 have been cancelled herein.

Claims 1-7 are rejected. Claims 25-30 have been newly added.

This application claims priority from Japanese Application 2001-03049. A certified copy of the priority document was submitted together with the filing of this application. It is respectfully requested priority and receipt of the priority document be acknowledged.

In addition, the IDS submitted concurrently with the present application has not been acknowledged. It is respectfully requested a copy of the initialed 1449 form be returned to the applicant's representative.

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify the claimed invention. The amendment of claim 1 is based on the specification, for example page 12, line 20 – page 13, line 6 and Fig. 3.

New claims 25-30 are supported by the specification, for example Figs. 2, 3, and 9.

No new matter is entered.

Claims 1, 3 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Hillis (U.S. 5,303,297). Claims 1-7 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hillis in view of Kikuchi et al. (U.S. 6,188,754) (Kikuchi).

Hillis

Hillis describes a communication service billing arrangement, which computes billing rates and informs the user of the different billing rates. When a capacity utilization changes a billing computer recomputes the rate.

Hillis discloses the billing rate is recalculated in response to change of loading, for example, and notifies the users via a communications link of the new rate.

However, Hillis discloses, as the billing rate, only \$ per Minute, namely, Hillis merely suggests a single accounting method based on communication time.

In contrast to Hillis Applicant's claim 1 recites: during utilizing the communication service, accounting quantities of the communication service are respectively calculated by each of plural accounting methods, which accounting element of each of the accounting methods differ mutually.

As shown in Fig. 3 of Hillis, a single billing rate (for one of calculation method) is indicated to the user (see block 44) with respect to a communication performed in a "user communication" in the block 50.

When communication is continued in block 55 ("user continues communication"), another single billing rate (for another calculation) is indicated to the user in the block 52.

Hillis recalculates using the same method with different rate information. This is different from applicant's claimed invention which provides for a plurality of accounting elements. For example: packet count (the number of packets), packet quantity and/or communication time, only time, etc.

Hillis does not teach or suggest the above-mentioned feature (i.e., plural types of accounting quantities are calculated and displayed) of the present invention.

In addition applicant's claim 1 includes: "displaying each calculation result ...calculated based on each of the plurality of accounting methods during...communication service."

Hillis describes updating the rate information and providing to the user but does not describe displaying each result based on a plurality of accounting methods.

In view of the foregoing it is respectfully requested the 102 rejection be withdrawn.

Claim Rejection under 103

Kikuchi disclose radio phone communication system for calculating a speech fee based on communication time and unit fee information.

Kikuchi only describes a single accounting method based on communication time which is the same description provided in Hillis.

Neither reference describes: an accounting element of each of said plurality of accounting methods differing mutually; and displaying each of calculation results of accounting quantities calculated based on each of said plurality of accounting methods....

Because the combination of references fails to teach or suggest every feature in the claimed invention the rejection under 103 should be withdrawn.

New Claims 25-30

Applicant's claim 25 includes the features of: "displaying means, regarding a communication relating to the same voice or data, being displayable a sum of money calculated by a first calculation method for the communication and a sum of money calculated by a second calculation method for the communication"

As shown in Fig. 3 of Hillis, a single billing rate (for one of calculation method) is indicated to the user (see block 44) with respect to a communication performed in a "user communication" in the block 50.

When communication is continued in block 55 ("user continues communication"), another single billing rate (for another calculation) is indicated to the user in the block 52. The contents of the user communication performed in the block 50 are different from the contents of the continued user communication performed in the block 55.

Thus, Hillis does not teach or suggest "displaying means, regarding a communication relating to the same voice or data, being displayable a sum of money calculated by a first

calculation method for the communication and a sum of money calculated by a second calculation method for the communication" recited in the new claim 25. Namely, Hillis does not teach or suggest displaying charges calculated by two or more calculation methods, respectively about a communication performed in a certain period.

The dependent claims include additional distinguishing features.

Claim 30

As shown in Fig. 3 of Hillis, a billing rate indicated in the block 52 does not relate to a communication performed in the block 50. A billing rate relating to the communication in the block 50 (a communication from starting the communication to performing the communication in the block 50) is only a billing rate indicated in the block 44.

Therefore, it is obvious that Hillis does not teach or suggest "display means being displayable, when a certain communication is started by the communication means, a sum of money calculated by a first calculation method from a start point of the certain communication and a sum of money calculated by a second calculation method from the start point of the certain communication" recited in the new claim 30.

It is respectfully submitted new claims 25-30 are patentably different from the prior art.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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